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assigning wideband downlink channels associated with the high-speed data terminal to the secondary service band.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one communication node includes a plurality of satellites and gateways.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the wideband downlink channels are assigned to a single time-slot of multiple contiguous channels for each high-speed data terminal.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the wideband downlink channels are assigned to multiple time-slots of multiple contiguous channels for each high-speed data terminal.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the wideband downlink channels are assigned to multiple time-slots of a single channel for each high-speed data terminal.

6. The method of claim 1, further including the steps of: making a handoff request for a plurality of current cell channels that are providing a wideband service for the high-speed data terminal;

rate negotiating an active connection in a current cell to a number of available handoff cell channels when the plurality of current cell channels are not available;

transferring communication traffic from the current cell to a handoff cell; and

rate negotiating an active connection in the handoff cell such that a number of assigned handoff cell channels is approximately equal to the plurality of current cell channels.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the multiple channels are contiguous channels.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the handoff request is a single handoff request.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the multiple channels are wideband downlink channels.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

assigning a priority to the high-speed data terminal; providing an acquisition message over an acquisition channel from the high-speed data terminal to the at least one communication node, the acquisition message including a special acquisition class designation that designates a priority of the high-speed data terminal; and

assigning channel resources based upon the special acquisition class designation, wherein a higher priority terminal preempts a lower priority terminal if required for a higher priority terminal to access the narrowband communication system.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the special acquisition class designation includes a data terminal type and a data terminal application for the high-speed data terminal.

12. A method for handing-off multiple channels assigned to a high-speed data terminal in a narrowband communication system, the narrowband communication system communicating with a high-speed data terminal and at least one communication node, the method comprising the steps of:

making a handoff request for a plurality of current cell channels that are providing a wideband service for the high-speed data terminal via the narrowband communications system;

rate negotiating an active connection in a current cell to a number of available handoff cell channels when the plurality of current cell channels are not available;

transferring communication traffic from the current cell to a handoff cell within the narrowband communications system; and

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rate negotiating an active connection in the handoff cell such that a number of assigned handoff cell channels is approximately equal to the plurality of current cell channels.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the multiple channels are contiguous channels.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the handoff request is a single handoff request.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the multiple channels are wideband downlink channels.

16. A narrow-band communication system that provides high-speed data services, the narrowband communication system comprising:

a high-speed data terminal; and

at least one communication node in communication with the high-speed data terminal, the at least one communication node performing the steps of:

dividing an available communication frequency spectrum into a primary service band and a secondary service band wherein the available communication frequency spectrum is a narrowband frequency spectrum;

assigning narrowband uplink channels, narrowband downlink channels and uplink channels associated with the high-speed data to the primary service band; and

assigning wideband downlink channels associated with the high-speed data terminal to the secondary service band.

17. The narrowband communication system of claim 16, wherein the at least one communication node includes a plurality of satellites and gateways.

18. The narrowband communication system of claim 16, wherein the wideband downlink channels are assigned to a single time-slot of multiple contiguous channels for each high-speed data terminal.

19. The narrowband communication system of claim 16, wherein the wideband downlink channels are assigned to multiple time-slots of multiple contiguous channels for each high-speed data terminal.

20. The narrowband communication system of claim 16, wherein the wideband downlink channels are assigned to multiple time-slots of a single channel for each high-speed data terminal.

21. The narrowband communication system of 16, further including the steps of:

making a handoff request for a plurality of current cell channels that are providing a wideband service for the high-speed data terminal;

rate negotiating an active connection in a current cell to a number of available handoff cell channels when the plurality of current cell channels are not available;

transferring communication traffic from the current cell to a handoff cell; and

rate negotiating an active connection in the handoff cell such that a number of assigned handoff cell channels is approximately equal to the plurality of current cell channels.

22. The narrowband communication system of claim 21, wherein the multiple channels are contiguous channels.

23. The narrowband communication system of claim 21, wherein the handoff request is a single handoff request.

24. The narrowband communication system of claim 21, wherein the multiple channels are wideband downlink channels.

25. The narrowband communication system of claim 16, further comprising the steps of: